

Postdoctoral position in rhizosphere study at University of California, Santa Cruz:

Postdoctoral Scholar in Rhizosphere Study

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ, Environmental Studies Department and Electrical & Computer Engineering Department

DESCRIPTION

We seek a postdoctoral scholar who will join a multidisciplinary team of PIs and collaborators working on a federally funded project entitled “Resolving the Paradox of Rhizosphere Effect on Soil Carbon Cycle.” The postdoctoral scholar’s primary work location is the Rhizosphere Lab in the Environmental Studies Department of UC Santa Cruz. The Rhizosphere lab is working in partnership with other labs at UC Santa Cruz and Stanford University that specialize in PET (Positron Emission Tomography) and micro-CT imaging technologies. These innovative technologies enable us to study soil matrix and root exudate pathways that connect rapid rhizosphere processes to the stabilization and destabilization of soil organic carbon. Combining these technologies with other carbon isotope (^{13}C , ^{14}C) methods developed in the Rhizosphere Lab offers a unique opportunity to drive cutting-edge research with global consequences. Duties of this position may include: (1) design and implement plant-soil systems for cutting edge micro-CT and PET imaging at Stanford University; (2) design and implement studies using ^{13}C labeling chamber/greenhouse at UC Santa Cruz; (3) collect and analyze datasets; (4) write manuscripts and publish research results; (5) with the guidance of the PI, co-manage the Rhizosphere laboratory and ensure its cleanliness, organization, and compliance with safety regulations; work with and mentor undergraduate research assistants. Applicants with demonstrated oral and written communication skills, expertise and experience in isotope methodologies and related data analysis, and strong background in soil science and plant physiology are strongly encouraged to apply.

ACADEMIC TITLE: Postdoctoral Scholar

SALARY: Commensurate with qualifications and experience with a minimum annual salary of \$64,480. Minimum annual salary rates are made based on the individual’s Experience Level, which is determined by the number of months of postdoctoral service at any institution. See current salary scale for Postdoctoral Titles at <https://apo.ucsc.edu/compensation/salary-scales/index.html>

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS

Ph.D. (or equivalent foreign degree) in plant and soil sciences and other relevant disciplines (or enrolled in a PhD or equivalent international degree program and to be completed by time of contract start).

POSITION AVAILABLE

As soon as possible after initial review of the applications. Ph.D. must be in hand at time of the initial appointment.

MAXIMUM DURATION OF SERVICE IN A POSTDOCTORAL TITLE

This Postdoctoral Scholar appointment is full-time; the initial appointment is for a minimum of one year, with the possibility of reappointment. Reappointment will be contingent upon positive performance review and availability of funding. The total duration of an individual's postdoctoral service may not exceed five years, including postdoctoral service at any institution. Under limited circumstances, an exception to this limit may be considered, not to exceed a sixth year.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All documents and materials must be submitted as PDFs and should be forwarded to Weixin Cheng (wxcheng@ucsc.edu) via email attachments

Documents/Materials

- Letter of application that briefly summarizes qualifications and interest in the position (required)
- Curriculum vitae (required)
- Reference Requirement: Applicants must provide the names and contact information of their references (a minimum of 2 are required and a maximum of 4 will be accepted). The hiring unit will request confidential letters from the references of those applicants who are under serious consideration.

RECRUITMENT PERIOD

Full consideration will be given to applications completed by May 15, 2024. Applications received after this date will be considered only if the position has not been filled.